REMARKS

With the above amendment, the specification has been amended to incorporate the European priority application 02080612.1 by reference.

Accordingly, it is believed that the application is in good condition for examination.

Questions are welcomed by the below-signed attorney for applicant.

Respectfully submitted,

GRIFFIN & SZIPL, P.C.

Joerg-Uwe Szipl

Registration No. 31,799

GRIFFIN & SZIPL, P.C. Suite PH-1 2300 Ninth Street, South Arlington, VA 22204

Telephone: (703) 979-5700 Facsimile: (703) 979-7429 Email: g&s@szipl.com Customer No.: 24203